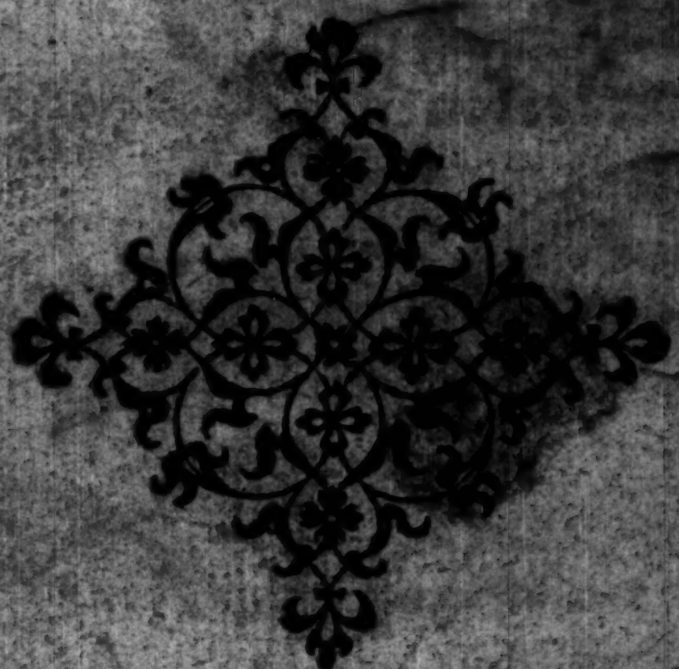
THE SECOND PART OF THE HISTORIE, CALLED THE NATVRE OF A WOMAN.

Contayning the end of the ſtrife betwixt *Perſeus* and *Theſeus*.

Compiled by *C. M.*



AT LONDON,
Printed by the Widow *Orwin* for *Clement Knight*, and are to be ſold at his ſhop at the little North-doore of S. Paules Church.
1596.

THE

SECOND PART OF THE HISTORIE, CALLED THE NATVRE OF A WOMAN:

Contayning the end of the strife betwixt *Persens* and *Thesens*:

Compiled by *C. W.*

AT LONDON,
Printed by the Widow *Orwin* for *Clement Knight*, and are to be sold at his shop at the little Nor-h-doore of S. Paulus Church.
1596.

To the curteous and friendly *Reader.*

AS it fares in the estate of al things that are so changed from their first, as if the Fathers of the first world liued to reuise this last, they should hardlie learne to know that wherein then they liued. So fares it in this vse of these triuiall toyes, which men were wont to cal by the names of some personages, whose liues or deaths were deciphered therein: but now framing their fancies to a new fashion, they will needes haue them named according to their natures, *Sicut trahit sua quemque voluntas.* And for my selfe was loath to breake square, I haue intituled this Historie, *The nature of a VVoman:*

which though therein it answer not euerie mans priuat expectation in what they meane, yet could not I fit it better to the matter, containing indeede nothing but the enuious practises of two wicked women: wherein if any take offence, let him for this time winke at my fault, as rather affecting to frame my selfe to the new fashion, that it should be accounted new stuffe, then following the old be esteemed as too stale.

Yours. *C. M.*

The ſecond part of the Hiſtorie, *called the nature of a VVoman: contayning* the trauaile of *Perſeus*, after he had fled from his Armie.

CHAP. 1.

After that the vnconſtant ſtate of neuer ſtayed fortune, had throwne downe theſe vnfortunate people from the height of thoſe heauẽly pleaſures (which before they inioyed in proſperitie) downe euen to the loweſt degrée, of blacke bottomles aduerſitie. Firſt, in rooting out the hope of their ſuccéeding remembrance, likely to liue long after they ſhould dye, in their happie children. Then, with ỹ eating canker of al vndoing enuie, ſeuering aſunder by their warres their well grounded commonwealth, which they ſo long had gouerned in peace. And laſtly, laying vpon themſelues, that which their diſſention had ouerloaded their poore countrimẽ withall, the hard ſentence of exiles extremitie, more grieuous then the coldeſt kind of bitter pinching pouertie; a more diſmall diuorſiue ſentence, then is the ſeparation of a ſecure ſoule from an earthly bleſſed bodie: for that the one ends all aduerſitie, the other begins their after

miserie: the one changes the stinking state of this lothsome life into the neuer dying ioyes of heauenly felicitie: but the other with a countermanding course puls backe the forwarde fortune of mens still mounting mindes, whom nature feedes with the hope of more and more happie blessings, into the despayring gulfe of all vndoing extremitie. This is the bridle wherewith foule fortune bindes in the strong headed state of many mightie Monarchies, when neither loue of vertue, nor hate of vice, feare of their friends ill, nor care of their owne weale, plagues at home, nor other punishment abroad, can pull backe to behold the wicked waies they haue ouer walked: then suffers she them to perseuer in their peeuish penance meriting purpose, till vnawares they bee assayled with the enuious incounters of vnlwked for exile, where they must weare out their age with sorrow, whose youth was wasted in all ioy, and learne to eate the bitter bread of banishmeut abroad, that could not satisfie themselues with the abnndant pleasures of their countries content at home, and let their death conquering deedes dye in desolation, which should after death eternize their euer-liuing names, to their yet vnthought of generation, where no pen shall paint out their perfect picture, nor any tongue shall tell their true stories: but dye like the soule (wanting bodies) of brutish beasts; the processe of whose forespent life, no mans memories admits.

Such was the harmefull hap of these now hopeles Kings, who whilest with the sun-shine of their luckie loue, they blessed the furthest borders of this their then thrice renowned regiment, made fortune proude that it lay in her power to aduance them. But now they vnaduisedly haue broake downe the force of their brotherly affections, entring as nakedly into woe, as whilome when they were borne into the world, gins

like

like a guideles shippe to turne with euery tossing sea, that were wont to stand steady like two sturdie rocks, till at length seuered asunder to goe seeke their seuerall punishment. Perseus that for his safegard had tane his way to the desert hils, that with their height compasses that countrie, walking many a wearie day in the sad remembrance of his shipwrack, gins now by the sowre sawce of fortunes aduersitie, iudge with himselfe the pleasure of his former prosperitie: and like a man that setled with himselfe to trie the hardest brunts of this enuious ill lucke, now in stead of comfortable companie, to whom he might complaine his case, expels sorrow with sorrowe, and quench the fire of his inwarde soggie sighes, by vttering to the eares of those vnacquainted ecchoes, the harsh history of his ill ending daies, delighting in stead of the replie of a fauourable friend, to heare the aggrauating eccho resounding from the craggie caues of those hollowe hils, the sorrowfull sound of woe ending words. Whereat the poore soule sate downe and sighed, till the ouer-charged burthen of his heart forcibly breaking out in abundance of christall teares, did with sacietie of sorrowe make shew of ease to euill, which indéede had no ende: whose daylie plaints moued with their mones, as the Thracian with his musicke the hard and ruinous rockes, that vnderpropped the skie-brauing tops of those mightie mountaines, to melt their marble sides into the shew of melting teares, plaining of him that could not pitie himselfe, and in stead of helping hands moues their senceles heads, as willing (though wanting power) to ease his agonie. Many dayes did he spend in this careful course, cutting out in capital letters vpō the barks of those adioyning trées, the dismall discourse of this his pitifull plight, writing the records of his woes in the stony tables of hard marble rocks, that might incite the eyes

of euery trauailer to teares, and pitie his woes, whoſe wracke they could not preuent. At laſt, when euen wearie with weeping, though ſtill full of teares, as is the nature of man greedie of noueltics, gins with himſelfe deuiſe how in deſpite of that diſtreſſe, he might inuent ſome new-found forme to lament, whoſe ſorrows might ſatisfie the effect of his intēt, and change the outwarde ſemblance of his ſorrowfull ſhewe: and ſitting him ſadly downe by a bubling ſpring, wherein he might ſee the reflere of his ſorrowfull face, he thus begins in a ſong, to braue the hard brunts of his haples heart, that ſtill afforded new fuell for his ſorrowes fire, freſh ſprings of teares for his watrie eyes, and ſtill replying words for his tragick tatling tongue.

Ye merrie Muſes whoſe delightfull wits,
Buſied in framing ſeuerall pleaſing ſongs,
Come here and dwell by me where ſorrow ſits,
Studying what tunes to wofull ſtraines belongs:
Ile fit what euer inſtrument they bring,
And by my voyce teach them how they ſhall ſing.

The Bace a tragick touch of my heart ſtrings:
The Tenor troubled ſighs that ſadly growes:
Next that, my words where liuely ſorrow ſings:
Then doleſull thoughts from whence deſpayre ſtill goes:
And laſt in conſort ſhall my eylids goe.
Whence teares deſtils like little worlds of woe.

The manner how he met with his ſonne, who was ſuppoſed to be ſlaine, and what paſſed betwixt them two.

CHAP. 2.

AND thus hée ſate ſinging to himſelfe, (for ſaue himſelfe there was none to rue with remorſe the pitifull tale he ſo dolefully told) ſuddenly he might eſpie out of the thickes of a neighbouring wood, that grew vp in the boſome of a fayre foreſt, that was round about inuironed with a circle of mightie mountaines, like the forme of an artificiall Theater) whence from euery ſeueral ſide the idle beholders ſits, and ſees the arte of imitating acters) a bigge boned man, whoſe ſight was ſomewhat diſpleaſing to him at the firſt: for that ſuch is the compoſition of a melancholy complexion, as that fils the minde with a thouſand ſeueral ſorts of vaine ſuppoſitions: whereon the more he thinks, the more he findeth himſelfe to fall ſhort from his thought: and yet wanting indeede what he ſuppoſes to himſelfe, and deſires that he had, he contents himſelfe to thinke that he were, that he vainly ſuppoſes he is: and ſo oftentimes expelling the ſubſtance of ſorrow with the bare imagination of better fortune, hee is as loath to breake his conceit, as a king to forgoe his Crowne. Yet at the length, ſeeing the man to frame his iourney to the place where himſelfe then ſolitarily ſate, begins ſtedfaſtly to looke vpon his limmes, to ſee how nature did differ in her ſelfe, in diſtinguiſhing the ſhapes of ſauage Satyres, borne in the bare boſome of vnknowne

plaines, and ciuill ſubiects framed in the pampering palaces of courtly Kings, which he found not ſo farre off, as he ſuppoſed he ſaw: for the néerer he drew, the fairer was his ſhew. Naked he was, ſaue that for himſelfe he had framed an vnorderly coate of beaſts ſkinnes, that couered thoſe ſecrets which ſauage creatures abhorres to ſée: his haire for want of curious koming, hung lóg diſhiuered about his head, naturally curled in more cunning knots, then imitating arts, armes other men withall, whoſe ſable colour plaied with the glorious beames of the all guilding Sunne, as when he riſes from his watrie couch he guilds the Eaſterne ſeas with decreiuing ſhowes. In his face had nature cunningly cõbined two contrary ſhewes in one ſelfe ſame ſubiect loue and feare, ſmiling as ſmoothly on his friends, as amorous Adonis on his vaine intiſing Venus, and frowning as fiercely on his enemies, as mightie Mars on his feare-falling foes. Beautie had builded vp her bower, and in pride plumed her feathers in his face: but that for want of a ſunne-ſhadowing vaile, her varniſh was ſomewhat decayed. Young and luſtie was all his limbs, ſtrong in the outward ſhew of conſtitution, & in his euery part dwelt all parts of péereles perfection, which drew the aged King into a wonder, that thoſe foule vnpeopled fields ſhould affoord ſuch faire framed formes. On the other ſide, the ſauage man (who till ỳ time had not bẽn acquainted with ſuch companie, nor before, that he could remember did euer ſée any one like himſelfe) makes more haſte vnto him then before it ſhould ſeeme hee intended. This man was Adrianus, ſonne to this forenamed Perſeus, of whom wée told you in the other part of this hiſtory, ỳ in his infancie he was by his wicked working Aunt ſent forth into thoſe forreſts, with an intent to be betrayed to death: who by ỳ vnnaturall loue of a Lioneſſe, had bẽn al this while brought

vp

vp in that desert, ignorant what hee was, because hee wanted those ordinary directions to tell him the truth: but that the instinct of nature had perswaded him there were other creatures; then those ordinary companie wherwith he daily dwelt, frō whom he must naturally descend: for that he seeing in the cōmon course of naturall increase euery beast bring forth his like, it powerfully perswaded him there were comely creatures like himselfe, though it neuer till then was his lucke to see them: and glad in himselfe that hee had at last wonne what he long had wished, he made great haste to climbe vp the wearie way, cut off the side of a hill to get vp to the place where he might see him sit: to whom when at last he came, looking stedfastly in his face, pausing long before his spæch, as vnacquainted with cunning salutations, wherewith commonly men curiously vse to reslalute one another, gins with wilde, and yet wittie words, rudely, and yet rarely in his vnacquainted kind demand what he was, that had hit vpon that plaine, in which place in twentie long yeares (for that space had he there spent) neuer saue himselfe any such creature came. To whom this cursed king, after he had throughly viewed his perfect proportion, wondring that so beautifull a bodie, adorned with so pregnant a witte, should spring from those vnfurnished fields: for as the Diamond that obscured in an vneuen rocke, through the thicke slough of many slimie shadowes sheiwes as it is what it should be: Roses through transparant lawne sets out their sweete substance by their fayre shewes: piercing starres though obscured oft with the couert of some ouer-shadowing clowde, yet through those shadowes seemes no lesse themselues: so fared in the forelorne state of this yet wild man, in whose face was ingrauen the characters of farre fayrer fortune, then is found in such desolate dwellings, whose words though

wanting

wanting that flattering forme wherewith other men vse to paint their speeches withall, yet with more discretion did they proceede from this vntutered truant, then vsually wee see from many of our best brought vp schollers: for in him was the picture of a perfect man, his bodie not bolstered with the apish trims of conceited attire, his mind not nusled vp in the slauish shadow of vaine and fruitles folly, his tongue had not tasted of that intising streame that tips with seuerall tunes the state of sundrie tongues, turning them from the mould wherein nature first had made them to a new forme, wherein arte wil néeds fashion thē, as some for feare, & other for falshood to flatter: some for bribes with bitter words to betray, and other for folly to say and gainsay: some with fayre fawning words to vndermine their friends, and others with Synons subtiltie to outreach their foes: some with tatling tales to tell the surest secrets of their firmest friends, and others with euill indeuours to deuise slanderous speeches to spitefull ends. What should we say on these sorts that dims my mind, more with multitudes thē the seueral starres in a winters frostie night dazles the eyes with their numbers, passes the sands on the shore, the drops in ẏ sea, the seueral pebles in a shewer of haile, or ẏ infinite abundāce of seueral grains ripe Autumne reapes from the earths fayre face. To bee short, there was perfection of bodie without the pampering of pride, vertue of mind without the varietie of misleading manners, a true telling tongue that neuer tasted of a trifling tale: so héere was deciphered the difference betwixt the intent of nature in our first creation, and the euent of vse in our education: for that the one first formes all things to the best, the other in the end frames them commonly to the worst.

Well, after these two had with such greetings salu-

ted

ted one another, as beseemed the melancholy disposition of the one, and the rude bringing vp of the other, they with friendly curtesie companie together, where the sauage man first begins earnestly to aske of the others estate: which the king fearfully fained to be but meane, and that hee hauing trod ỹ tract of an almost vnworne way, had by hard hap hit vpon that place: and being ignorant what way to escape, had there long lingered, as is the common vse of such distressed men, carefully considering with himself what way were best to worke his owne release from that wast way wanting wildernesse. To whom the sauage man gan thus answer. I that know not from whence thou camest, am farre vnable to direct thee whither thou shouldst backe againe goe, and saue my selfe liues there none here like to thee. Twentie fayre Summers flowers haue I sene fade in these fields, & sustained the stubborne brunts of as many winter blasts, sene the seuerall shapes of sundrie beasts, and marked their manners in their seueral kinds, how the stately Lyon proudly commands the other poore crouching creatures, and they in their kinde dutifully demeane themselues to his soueraigntie: mine eares haue heard the seuerall sounds of their sundrie voyces, but could not distinguish them. Oft haue I spoke to the cruell beasts, thinking they could skill of my words: but they all rudely runnes away without answering againe: then fearing least that threatning wordes had with feare forced their flight, gan I with submisse intreaties to craue their companies: but that as did the first perished without hope, and left me still to mine ill happe, which oft urged me to consider with my selfe what my selfe might bee, differing in making, disagreeing in manners, and failing of euery meanes that I made for my further instruction. No place is here that I haue not often sought, to see of whom I

 might

might iſſue: for that thus much hath nature taught me, that needes I muſt come from a like kinde as doe all creatures els. Little I remember my ſelfe as I haue ſeene the young whelps of theſe careles creatures that poſſeſſe theſe plaines, and by the proceſſe of time am by degrées growne to this ſtate, wherein now thou ſeeſt I ſtand. And thus with a long diſcourſe gins he debate vnto him, how from his infancie to that age, he had liued in thoſe vnpeopled lawnes. At laſt, whē they with much interrogatory talke had paſſed away a long ſummers day, and that now the ſhadow of the ſilent night gan ſommon euery creature to their quiet reſt, the ſauage man loath to leaue his new found companion alone, to ſpend the ſolitarie night in that vncomfortable caſe, perſwades him to accompany him downe into the bottome of a declining valley, ý a farre off hee ſhewed him: who for that he had marked the trueth-ſhewing tales of his former talke, and being comforted by his well-wiſhing words, not to feare the furious onſets of outragious beaſts: for that ſuch was his acquaintance amongſt the vnreaſonable rulers of that foreſt, as that like the quiet citizen within the peacefull walles of his houſe, is in the ſtealing ſilence of the quiet night (by the watchfull meanes of a wel meriting Magiſtrate) defended frō the forcible inuaſions of ill meaning enemies: ſo he in his quiet Caue ſecurely ſleepes, little fearing the furie of theſe bolde beaſts, in whoſe companie hee had alwaies conuerſed. At laſt, wonne with the words of this faire foretelling friend, the king wearie with ſolitarie ſitting there alone, and willing alſo to eaſe his head of thoſe cruell cares that ſolitarie diſcontent had clogged him withall, he willingly condeſcends to the others wiſh. Theſe two trauailing thus together, at the laſt comes downe againe into the bottome of the plaine, where (for it was now almoſt night)

night) were assembled diuers sortes of sundrie wilde beasts readie addressed to go seeke their pray: amongst whom when they came, as doth the sillie sheep to their acquainted shepheard, gently giue him way to trauaile where euer he will: so fares it with these two, that at their pleasure trace these deserts vp and down through many daungerous darke shades, that ouerspreads the hidden caues of sundrie subtill deuouring beasts. At last they came downe into a long valley, where out of the side of a rockie cliffe was naturally hewed a deep hollow Caue, into which was a conueiance of light through the clift of a rocke that ouer-roofed this house: where the wilde man not vsed with curious welcomes to entertaine any such guests, gins plainly performe the duetie of a well-meaning man, telling him that his good will wished him better then his power was able to performe.

Not long had these two sitten alone in this loathsome beastly den, ere there comes in a bloudie mouthed Lioneſſe, bearing in her tearing teeth the quarter of a new killed kid. This was that Lioneſſe that in the former part of this history wee tolde you of found this young prince, desolately forsaken in the desert, whom she in his infancie carefully brought vp, nursing him with that milke wherewith she should haue sustained her young ones, till the ripenes of yeares had strengthened his stomacke, and made him now able with vse to feede on raw flesh with those rauenous beasts: for whose prouision this carefull nurse had prouided that silly supper: who comming to her den, and finding there vnaccustomed companie, gins sternly to stare in his face, as though she ment to prosecute her angrie countenance, and terribly teare him in peeces with her vnmercifull clawes: till when she saw the sauage man (that had for his better safegard brought him downe

into the depth of that dungeon) friendly imbrace him in his armes, as though thereby he ment to rescue him frō all insuing harmes: then gins she turne her frowning countenance to fawning cōpassion, her terrible threats to a tractable truce, kindly with her dumbe demeanour (such as nature hath furnished these reasonles creatures withall) entertaines this trauailer, licking kindly his hands, which otherwise she could not kisse, softly touching him with her hard talens as loath to hurt him now, whom before she intended to harme. Thus with what curtesie their vnkindly cottage did affoord, doe they intertaine this their new com'd companion: who not vsed to eate such vndressed dilhes, as their hungrie stomackes gently digested, was content that night to liue onely with looking on their kind of life, still thinking to himself, what and how great was his own fall, that whilome being the commander of so many men, was now thus at the command of one silly beast. But for that necessities extremitie is comprehended within no bounds of ciuilitie, as also because he feared if he should againe fall into his olde frantick furie, it would alter the minds of these kindly vsing creatures to the execution of some other act: force of the one, and feare of the other, so bridled his boundles griefe, that perforce hee must needes refraine from sheading those mercie-mouing teares, which for all that he was scarse able to detaine. At last, after the many terrors of that tedious night, gins the golden Sunne, by the forerunners of his fierie carre, tell to the world the gladsome approach of his comming, when as Aurora gins with her searching shew enter through the close crannies of that clifted rocke: at whose approach wakens this sauage man from his vnnaturall nurse, and greeting his guest with such salutations, as then for want of better serued their turnes, he leades him from thence downe

lower

lower to the side of a faire fountaine, that issued from the roote of a christall rocke, whose water clearer then the christall from whence it came, reuiues the dead senses of droping beholders to looke vpon ỹ swift streame, that with his bubling melodie (farre passing the murmuring musickes of Aganippus wels, that waters the Arcadian meades) were able to draw the floting Dolphins from the watrie bosome of the sea, to stand amazed at their musick, as whilome they did at the well tuned strings of sweet Orions harpe, when from the cruel meanes of massacring marriners, they surely shielded him to the safe shore. There these two sits them down to wash their wearie bodies in that purifying spring, where the sauage man still vrging this vnfortunate King further to relate the manner of his life. At last, whether vrged by inward griefe, that most delighteth in despairing it selfe, or forced thereunto by the perswasions of this his sauage sonne, gins at last to declare the whole storie of his ill ending raigne: first recounting the surpassing pleasures that are compassed within the Crownes of Kings: then the honour they euery day receiue from many millions of seruiceable subiects. And when hee had largely related all these forepassed pleasures, then like AEneas, when he described to woe weeping Dido, the funerall flames ỹ had fired fayre Ilions glorie, with sad faced sighs he thẽ settles him down to tell the tragick storie of his owne fall. Which when this wild man had attentiuely heard, considering with himselfe the great occasion, that should draw downe so many distilling teares from the eyes of so patient a creature, as he seemed to bee, gan thus answer his yet vnknowne father. If (quoth hee) with the vnstable stormes of winde, the strong Cedars that stoutly stands on the tops of high mountaines firmly rooted in flintie rockes, be so suddenly throwne downe, what

ſhall ſmall ſhrubbes ſhroode themſelues withall, who yet ſcarſe recouered, but entring the ſuperficies of the earth, is hardly able to abide the ſweete breathed Southerne blaſt: If ſuch bee the vnconſtant ſtate of your greateſt Kings, what is the fickle fortune of your ſeruill ſubiects? Then ſee I my ſelfe here happie in deſpite of fate, hauing naught wherein to ioy, I ſhall loſe nothing which ſhould vrge me to weepe. Much talke paſſed betwixt them to this effect, when as the King willing to be againe releaſed from that priſon, wherein he was perforce detained, fell in perſwading this wilde man to accompanie him into the peopled world, where he might liue with men, and leaue theſe wilde woods where was no company but beaſts, telling him the pleaſure was like to proceede from the one, and the laſting paines he ſhould ſtil be put into by the other. But ſo farre had the former tale of his riſing and ſudden falling diſwaded him from dwelling in that Icie ſtay, where he that is ſureſt is vncertaine how long he ſhall ſtand, that he thought it better dwelling in a lowly valley, from whence lower he could not fall, then climbing to the height of a hill, where his fortune was euer in danger to fade. At laſt when the King perceiued all his labour loſt, he deſired his companion againe to conduct him to the place where before he found him ſolitarilie ſitting by himſelfe: which though he was loath to doe, fearing leaſt by that meanes he ſhould loſe his companie, yet notwithſtanding inforced by the earneſt intreatie of this his new found friend, he condeſcended to his requeſt. And they twa together trauailed ſo long, that at length they came downe into another dale on the other ſide of that hill where the morning before they met, through which lay many faire pleaſant paths that directed the way to euery adioyning place, where the ſauage man loath to ſtray too farre, leaſt he ſhould not

happily

happily hit backe againe on his owne way, leaues his friend to his better fortune, where for a while we must also leaue them both, Perseus in trauailing into the world to seeke some more faithfull friends, and Adrianus returned backe againe into the forrest, to his accustomed companie.

How *Theseus* in his flight was intercepted by the theeues that first saued his daughter, and what followed of that.

CHAP. 3.

N this time Theseus, that was the other brother, who after the ouerthrowe of his armie, had taken his way towards those plaine forrests & borders vpon the banks of the sea, was in his trauaile circumuented by many outlawes, that houering vpon the high wayes accustomably vsed to spoyle poore passengers, who seazing vpon that bootles pray, puls him perforce home to their caue, which was in that place where before wee tolde you his daughter was surprised by those theeues, when her Aunts seruant intended to drowne her in that sea that now seuers the Christian coast from the bounds of ouer burned Barbarie. Where when he came, he begins cunningly to dissemble his estate, least by that meanes he might bee preuented of his further purpose, fayning himselfe to bee a poore countrie peasant that had thither wandred from his way, alleaging simplicitie for his excuse. And for that there remained now about

bout him no tokens that might tell from whence hée came: for to preuent that purpose, he had exchanged all his kingly robes with a base slaue, that in his flight he met by the way: whereby being beleeued by them to be what he barely affirmed himselfe, and destitute of such purchase as they promised themselues he had béen possessed of, seeing him a goodly man like to stand them in stead, they begin to perswade him to follow that lewd life themselues did there professe, which was the robbing and dispoyling of poore people, the neighbouring inhabitants of that cursed countrie. Whereto he for feare condescended, least if he should haue denied, their crueltie might haue cut away the hope of his after haruest, which for all this trouble hee hoped in the ende to atchieue. And so walking homewards, in their way they began to instruct him in their théeuish occupatiõ, he should mercilesly spoyle the poore, robbe the rich, without remorce bereaue them of their liues, that stubbornly stand out against their indeuours. Spending ỹ time in these villanous practises, at length they drew néere home, where readie to intertaine them was the Captaine of these cõfederates walking with his wife, a goodly woman, richly attired with the pretious spoyles that these vnthriftie villaines had forcibly taken away from many true men in their trauaile. This woman was that Liuia that wee told you before was taken away from her friends, with an intẽt to haue bin slaine: but rescued by those Outlawes, had a long time made her abode amongst them, and as growing in yeares, so in beautie & commendable qualities, was at the length beloued of him that was chiefe Captaine of that cruell companie, and at last were married together, of whom he begot a fayre daughter, whose name was Larina, which they tenderly brought vp, thinking that one day fortune would so fauourably smile vpon them,

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as to grace their gouernment, as that they should by some meanes reduce it from barbarous outlawed cruelltie, to authentick well gouerned ciuilitie. To these two their factors present this spoyle, which though he were poore, yet did hope perswade them that he would supplie their necessitie in another matter, though he deceiued their expectations in the present possession of such rich prize, as commonly they were accustomed to finde of such as they suspected him to be. To bee short, they intertained him well, because they would incourage him to serue them with the like: where for a while he changed his sometimes happie estate, to the infortiue furie of their more then brutish behauiour, wherewith they accustomed to handle all that came in their holde. At length, after he had long time inured himselfe to this kind of companie, walking one day vnder the solitarie shadowe of a sheltring rocke, vpon whose top those people for their pleasure had framed the forme of a gorgeous garden, and with great labour (for what wil not paines performe) planted diuers sprigs of seueral trées, that with their continuall comforting, with supplie of such things as added more moysture to their rootes, then the barren rocke, were growne vp very high, vnder whose shadow one day to shelter her selfe from the heate of the sunne, was solitarily set. This Lady where tuning the strings of a sweete sounding Lute, she to their trembling straine warbles forth this dittie.

If euery creature make such mirth
To see his kindred in their kind,
How then may I bewayle my birth,
Which wants that meanes to cheere my mind?
No tongue can tell where I was bred,
Nor any happie man relate
The place from whence I first was led,
To weare here in this wofull state.

Vnto whom he that all this while had heard her ſad ſong, begins thus to anſwer her in another ſort.

And I muſt ſing another note,
Whom fortune hath caſt downe
From fames faire top, where I did flote,
In ſorrowes lap to drowne.

Whence ſhe looking downe to ſée what eccho ſhould readily in her owne vaine anſwere her againe, eſpies this new intertained ſeruant of theirs ſitting ſo ſolitarily vnder the ſide of a rocke, to whom ſhe cals to come vp vnto her into the garden, that ſhe might further conferre with him about his eſtate, which yet he made ſo ſtrange. To whom when he came, he begins rufully to lament his forelorne eſtate, telling her all the ſtorie of their vnbrotherlike ſtrife, euen vntil that preſent place wherein they were: whoſe many teares moued ſuch mercie in the eare of this paſſionate Ladie, as the promiſing her ayde to releaſe him from that thraldome, he boldly goes forward to diſcloſe the drift of his deuiſe, telling her that the ſcope of his intent was either to depart farre from the remembrance of that countrie, or els to ſtirre vp ſome neighbouring friends of his that dwelt in an adioyning Iland to thoſe confines, to riſe with him in armes for the recouerie of his kingdome: to the furtherance whereof, would ſhe but worke ſome meanes for his releaſe, if fortune & his forward ſtarres did but further his friends, he would ſo remunerat that good turne, as ſhe ſhould bleſſe the time wherein ſhe firſt intended ſuch an enterpriſe. Which when he had vehemently vowed, ſhe to auoyd ſuſpition ſends him away: and afterwards gathering from her huſband, and the reſt of their ſeruants, which way they meant the next daye to addreſſe themſelues, and ſo plotting her purpoſe,

purpose, shift his escape by a contrarie way, that night furnishes him with all such necessaries, as her poore prouision could affoord, and so secretly sends him away: where we must a while leaue him in his trauaile to try his friends, and she with her husband in his homely rockie house, and come once more to those wicked women, by whose meanes was growne all their miserie.

How the two Queenes met both together in the Lyons denne where *Adrianus* was brought vp, and how by his meanes they were rescued.

CHAP. 4.

They by the censure of the iust iudging senate, that had secretly searched almost the depth of their deuise, and by such circumstances, as the processe of that little prose they had did affoord them, found the greatest fault of that furie in these worse then wicked women, had for euer forbidden them further abode within the bounds of that kingdome, vntill they could by their accord ioyne those againe that their discorde had disseuered, and bee themselues the meanes of their peace, that of themselues had bred their warres: who taking them to this seuerall search, gins now frame themselues to bee obedient to all that before were second to none, clad in course sackcloath that were not contented with rich silkes, spending the darke nights vnder the dolefull shades of Cipresse bowes, that had scorned the pleasure

of princely beds; in stead of those choise dainties whereon before they fed, now content with ỹ meanest meate that the earth did affoord. Dorrabella that was wife vnto Perseus the eldest brother, she wandring through the vnknowne wayes of a wide forrest, was there suddenly incountred in ỹ same place, where by her meanes her sonne Adrianus sho uld haue bene murthered by the like lucke with a fierce Lioneſſe, of whom she being afrayd, made meanes to escape away: but all in vaine, for the beast seazing vpon her bodie, countermands her course, and perforce carries her downe to the same den where she fostered her child: for this was the same Lioneſſe that saued Adrianus from the crueltie of that cutthrote caitiffe that had cunningly contriued his ende: where, for that the beast had some extraordinary intent, to prouide for her fostered childe some companie of his owne kind for him to consort withall, or that the Gods in their great vnsearchable wisedome had lengthened out her life to a worse intended end. This brute beast without offering her violent iniurie, which is a thing not commonly found in their kind, sets her safely down in her caue, where she quietly kept her till such time as her companion came in, to whom with her fayre wonted fawning she presents her prize. The woman better imboldened at the shewe of a man, then she was of the still fearfull sight of the beast, begins somewhat to recouer her lost colour, and with fearefull cryes gins suddenly implore his ayde against the enuie of that her naturall enemie. At whose sight the man somewhat ioyfull to see the shape of another, in whom was represented the shew of himselfe, gins with his ordinarie intertainment to welcome her to that homely house, telling her that such was the extraordinary nature of that beast, that she would neuer harme any creature: and then falling into further talke, he begins to enquire of

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her what drewe her downe into those melancholy meades, where saue himselfe seldome or neuer comes any such creatures. To whom she begins to relate a contrary course of her forepast life, fearing least the very sound of her voyce in reiterating the remembrance of her death-meriting deedes, would not onely incurre his anger, but stirre vp that senceles beast to wreake their woes, whom she so vnworthily had wronged, and therfore tels him that she was a woe wearied woman, that in her melancholy moodes had left the pore place where shee dwelt, to soiourne in some vncoth vnfrequented shade, where no delightfull day might solicite to her sad memorie, the loue of her forepassed life no chéerefull sunne might cherish her cold chilled limmes, nor pleasant newes of neuer dying ioy might bring her backe againe to her former felicitie. At which tale the wild man, though himselfe had neuer felt the force of powerfull passions, that winds mens bodies like a workmanship in ware: yet pitying that in her he neuer tasted in himselfe, tels what trueth tolde him, that hard was her hap to change her chéerefull consorting companie of friends, to desolations sad discomforture amongst her foes, to come from whence she was first brought vp, to that place where she was finally cast downe, except (quoth he) you can frame your fancie to vndergoe the beastly behauiour of these vnciuill creatures, amongst whom I now liue, and with whom I meane to dye: for such a rumour heare I to runne of the inconstant course of mightiest monarchies, which also in some I haue seene true, that from the highest braunch they are oft bowed downe euen to the lowest barke of the bulke, that I finde more swéete content in this vnchangeable stay, then they in their stedfastest state. In which talke they beguiled the time, till night ouertaking them both, admits no more interpassage of

friendly speech, where he to his ordinarie rest, and she to her accustomed complaints, betakes themselues, shee telling in secret to her sad heart the heauy burthen of her groaning griefes, whose heauy soule melted with the inforciue furie of her still crying sorrow, destils in amber teares: sometimes she thinkes of her husband, and then hope helpes her vp with this thought, that though long, yet they shall againe méete at last. Then remembers she the children, as well that of her owne as the other, that by her meanes was massacred, supposing heauens had heaped iust vengeance vpon her for her former sinnes. And lastly, when shee thought vpon her selfe, then comes dead death with his crasie coloured countenance, and inforces her not to blush for shame, as doe the outward shewes of offenders, but looke pale for pitie as the vse of such guiltie guides, that not onely leades themselues into that recureles gulfe of neuer recouering griefe, but also intises other into a world of woes, from whence there is no retiring. Thus did she preuent that which euer was alsaying to preuent her, the all stilling state of secure sléepe, where her thought was still stumbling of some sinne, whose iust iudgement was likely to insue vpon her after life, till in the secret of the silent night there suddenly sounded ouer their beaute heads ỹ noyse of a fearefull pursute, as though some angrie beast had insolently risen vpon another simpler sort, where suddenly into the Caue where they then lay, descends downe the likenes of a liuely creature, not such as was wont to accompanie them in their Caues, but others that elsewhere, with vntimely disturbance waken the sleeping wits of watchfull men, at which they were all affraid. The Lionesse for that she these many daies had neuer béen in any such sort disturbed; the man for that since his first comming thither, hee neuer viewed any

such

ſuch thing; the woman for that ſhe dreamed of ſome extraordinarie euent that ſhould inſue of that ſudden vproze: but as euery wonder becomes at laſt moze ordinarie then it ſhewes at the firſt, ſo in the end by the ſhadow ſearching Mone, they might moze eaſily eſpie that which had driuen them all into this extraordinarie doubt, the ſubſtance of the other ſiſter, whoſe fault was equal with the firſt, and ſo was her repentance as readie as any of the reſt. But how ſudden ſozrow ouertoke her beaute heart, in finding that in the ende from which ſhe fled in the beginning, a Lyon from whoſe clawes ſhe thought ſhe had cléered her ſelfe. But as it fares in the euer ſwelling ſurges of the ſenceles ſeas, that the weary water wozking men fall from the grædie gripe of Sillaes ſhiuering ſhozes, into the couert of Charibdes cruel courſe: ſo fares it with her that flying from the bare ſhew of death, was fallen into darknes it ſelfe. Where when ſhe ſaw ſo many contraries coupled in one ſubiect, as crueltie with curteſie, fell inforciue furie with friendly forbearing fellowſhip, reaſonable caitiues there ſubiect to vnreaſonable creatures, ſoule poſſeſſing bodies with ſauage profeſſing beaſts. But at lẽgth ſhe ſatiſfied with the ſhew of them, and they glutted with gazing on her, the ſauage man as curteouſly begins to welcome her, as he gaue gentle greétings to the other, and with ſuch wozdes as his yet vnkindly curteſie did affoozd, intertaines her. And for that the troubleſome time of the night did not affoozd ſuch ſhew of further fauour, as by his promiſe he purpoſed to perfozme in the day: ſhe by the other ſoftly ſits downe her ſelfe, betwixt whom you muſt now imagine ſuch dumb demeanes of friendſhip, for feare to proceéd, as whileſt they were, well could not come from curteous loue. There doe theſe two with outwarde ſhewes diſplay ones plaints to the others paſſions. Many dumbe

demeanes

demeanes paſſed betwixt theſe two, till after long lingering ſhewes, that with their diſſembling ſhadowes, had lulled againe into a ſlumber theſe two careles creatures, whoſe nature ſuſpecting nothing els but naked trueth, without all further inquiſition fals againe faſt aſléepe: which when theſe two wofull women had warilie weyed, they taking this aduantage of time, gins quickly one to murmur to another the euents of their ſeuerall tournies. And here muſt I now leaue further to enuey againſt their enmitie, and talke now of their ſolemne contrition, wherein we muſt not wey the ruine of their childrens rape, but the remorce of their ſins remembrance: faults that are péeuiſhly perſecuted, deſerues the pitie of no one: but crimes wilfully committed, with the remedie of repentance are mightily amended. Which in theſe two proued moſt true: for there each other confeſſing to themſelues in theſe perils the daungers they did one to another in their peace, with womaniſh woe that after in teares more bewayles their vnfortunate ends, then they foreſee their two forward beginnings, and then with many teares tormẽts themſelues too much, which they might well haue preuented with a little, curſing too late that which is come at laſt vpon thoſe crimes they committed at the firſt. And here let me ſhew their vnconſtant ſtate, not ſtanding alwaies in a ſtay, but wauering like the winde, ſometimes proſecuting with loathed diſdaine, them which once they did follow with louing deſire: then changing their copie as cowards do their countenance, that wauer with the wind of euery buzzards blaſt, they againe begin to deſire what before ſo déepely deteſted: ſometimes with haſtie men too ſone bréeding their own ſorrowe, and then with ſloathfull ſluggards deferring too long to ſalue their owne ſores, oftentimes weauing their owne woe, when they ſuppoſe they worke anothers

thers wracke. For so vnwarie are their wits, that they neuer think of that should follow, from the force of that which goes before: but like the vnfortunate Larke that drawne downe with the dazeling glide of a deceiuing glasse, delighting so long in his game till he be catched in the gin: so fares it with these fond fooles, that God knowes are too greedie of some sliuer deceiuing shewes, and yet busie enough to bite off others golden baites. Yet not so prouident as the poore Sparrowe, that hauing escaped the foulers fetter, with her chéerefull chirping giues notice to the rest of her neighbours: but where themselues haue seene many fall, they yet desperatly follow.

Here might I extend this Satyricall vaine, but that I will not be accounted as one that loathes what other mē loues: therfore wish they could amend what euen themselues sees plainly amisse, and in themselues learn to feare that, which by example of their owne sore they cannot beware. And thus pitying them, whose hurt rests onely in themselues to helpe, I will referre you to wonder at these two wicked women, whose déedes had so far diuided thē, till that vnlooked for luck had met them together againe in that desolate place, whom deseruing diuorce had parted in their peopled palace: there gin they one to another relate the tragicke storie of their forepassed purposes in their diuers imaginations of each others iniurie, till at last according in one consent they mutually moue what they had malitiously ment, till that lamenting each to other their lewd liues, they with instant intreaties solicites the neuerfayling forces of all helping heauens, that with fauour they would looke vpon their faults that had indéede deserued their iust frownes. For such must I néedes say is the composition of those, though often careles, yet more vsuall comfortable creatures, that if for want of

well guiding gouernment they sometimes fade, yet seldome doe they for euer fall. For such is their flexible nature, as like the Philosophers table they willingly impose vpon themselues euery seuerall impression, but commonly their nature nourishes but one: as when the profit proouing merchant viewes the seuerall sorts of sundrie commodities, though there be many that hee well could like of, yet is there but some fewe that especially he can loue: so is it in the seldome securitie of this sexe, that busying themselues with many, they binde themselues but to a few. May, shall I compare them to a fitter forme of reason resembling creatures, as when the Lapwing houering farre from her nest, seemes to descry the daunger of her young nere hand, which hee that suffers his patiens to search shall finde farre off: so haue I heard it proued true of them, whose policie in this I must needes approue, if well performed to bee perfect: for that they colour thereby the cunning of their own skill, and withdraw the otherwise beholders affections farre off, not to looke to that practise they in such secret performe. But now leaue we thē in this inforciue peace, ỹ end of their selfe-wrought warre, learning to liue like the Lion in feare, that lightly before regarded the libertie of loue, and looke backe againe to our first painfull pilgrime.

How *Perseus* came to the Court of *Ferdinand* the French King, and of him got ayde for the recouerie of his countrie.

CHAP. 5.

PErseus seeking some refuge after he had forsaken the companie of his vnsuspected sonne, at last directs his course

course to clime the mightie Alpes, and goe renew his acquaintance now in France in his age that he had got there in his youth, where his olde father had kept him long at schole to learne there the rudiments of arte, whereof their owne countrie was not then so well stored: where comming to the Kings court, was at the first lightly receiued of them, whom sometimes hee had graced with his companie: imitating the example of vnmerciful maisters, that when a sillie seruant, wherein was sometimes their treasure, fals by mishap to any sudden mischance, thē presently accounts he not of him so well as of a slaue, whō he was wont to vse familiarly as his friend. Yet at the last vncouering the cause of his care, and with teares telling them the truth of two true stories, Ferdinand (for so was then that French kings name) pitying the ill happe of his age, of whom there was such great hope in his youth, answers him againe in teares, the ensignes of griefe, and comforting on him vp with the presages of more fauourable fortune, gins bid him but deuise with himselfe how hee might any wise doe him good, and he would willingly not onely imploy his countrie and kingdome, but hazzard his owne health to doe it, though now death had displayed his colours on his hoarie head, and currishly counterchecks his courage. Which reply so relieued the dying countenance of this other worse then captiue king, as that calling backe his decaying sences, whose vigores were now all mustering about the labouring heart, euery one expecting a sundrie answere for their seuerall release, makes him begin againe to looke for longer life, who before desired nothing more then a spéedie death. And first with humble thankes rendring to the king, he begins to explaine vnto him his intended purpose, which was, that if hee could by his friendly fauour get but againe together a moytie of

those men which before he had misled, and by his owne negligence vndone, his intent was againe to inuade his countrie, and set himselfe once more in his kingdome. To whom the old king offered all speedie ayde he was able to performe, whom we leaue a while musketing their souldiers to send ouer the Alps into Italie, and now talke of Theseus.

How *Theseus* perswading the King of Barbary to the spoyle of his countrie, obtained the ayde of the Moores.

CHAP. 6.

THeseus, who after by the meanes of his vnknowne daughter had freed himselfe from that danger, shipping himselfe in a little galley that was then going ouer into Africa, hee committeth himselfe to ỹ mercie of the seas, from whom the well wishing windes had soone set him free. Where when he came, he politikely begins to consort himselfe with a noble man, whom the blacke king of that countrie had before (whilest these two brethren did together louingly sway the Scepter of their quiet kingdome) imployed vpon ambassage vnto them, and vnto him delates his drift, telling how he by the meanes of mutinous subiects, was wrested out of his countrie and kingdome, & driuen to seeke relieue in that strange soyle, protesting that if he could by any meanes come by sufficient supply of men and munition, that would but in reuenge of these iniuries ouerrun his countries,

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he not loking againe to posſeſſe his Crowne, would yéeld vp both the ſpoyle of his countrie and the posſeſſiō of his kingdome to the conquerour. To which pleasing tale the Moore giuing some eare, for that in them was rooted an old grudge against the Italians, spurs speedily to the King to certifie him of this offered occasion of rigorous reuenge vpon their old enemies. To whom he listening, desirous both to scourge that countrie that had oft scourged him, and also to inlarge the bounds of his kingdome beyond the border of the binding sea that separates those seuerall parts of the world, and kéepes the inhabitants within the compasse of their owne countrie, offers hastie helpe to the performance of the others request, and in the meane time whilest all these things were making readie, they contrary to their former sort of ciuilitie, gētly entertaine him, vnder whose colour they were in such hope of successe in those wished warres. Now begins the coale black curres reioyce within themselues in very conceit of conquest, diuiding the spoyles before they were about to begin the battell, telling of their triumphs before they well knew what it was they should winne: here are whole Dukedomes cast away at dice vpon a drummes head, before they almost dreamed what it was that should be had: where wee will a while leaue them two prouiding their pretended forces for Italy, and come againe to the Outlawes, where wee left Liuias daughter coupled in marriage with their chiefe Captaine.

How the Outlawes ſeeking their pray, by chance met with *Adrianus* the wild man, and how they perſwaded him to leaue that place, and what followed therof.

CHAP. 7.

THey after their cuſtome, diuiding themſelues into diuers cõpanies, ſearches al ẏ conueying wayes of their countrie for to finde ſome fit pray, where ſome of them trauailing further thẽ their accuſtomed compaſſe, becauſe fortune had not affoarded them ſuch fauour as at the firſt to ſpẽde themſelues, they were therefore inforced to followe the trace of ſome way, in which they hoped at laſt (though it were too long) to mæte with ſome or other bootie that would bountiouſly guerdon their trauaile. So long they traced to and fro that they got vp to the top of a high hill, whence they might ſee downe belowe in the dale a man alone, whoſe ſhew was not ſuch as they wiſhed, trimmed vp in gorgeous golden apparell, but couered with a beaſts ſkinne on his backe, bearing a knottie club, ſuch weapons as nature there had framed for him, and walking vp and downe in theſe deſerts, made the ſillie beaſts with obeiſance crouch to his countenance, as did Alcides terrifie the furies in the boſome of burning hell. This was Adrianus that was there alone walking the wide circute of thoſe melancholie meades, to whom they poſting apace, thinking by ſurpriſing him, though of himſelfe they ſhould reape

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ſmall commoditie, yet by his meanes they might bee directed to ſome more profitable place. This ſauage man looking back, and ſéeing ſo many ſuddenly deſcend from the top of ỹ hil, whoſe vnorderly approach as he ſuppoſed, pretended little good: he naturally foreſéeing what inconueniences might followe, addreſſing himſelfe to his defence with his naturall wrought weapon, which was a young oken plant, and perceiuing them eſpecially to ſhape their courſe to him, ſtoutly ſtands ſtill to ſee ſome end of their actions. To whom when they came néere, his fierce countenance halfe affrighted them, that ſtanding all ſtill like the ſtarre gazers at the transforming head of Gorgon, durſt not once ſo much as enquire what he was, till one hairebraine companion taking the aduantage of his weapon, that was not vſed to the cunning ſleights of fence, got quickly within him, and ſhifting himſelfe from the weightie fall of his club, ſuppoſed with ſome nimble ſleight to ouercome him: which when the ſauage man perceiued, getting hold of him with one of his hands, before the other had performed his purpoſe, gines him ſuch gripe as ſquiſies perforce the pithie marrow from moſt of his ſtrength bearing bones, and ſo leaues him ſuddenly ſlaine, that intended ſuch vnacquainted iniurie to him. Which whē the reſt of his fellowes ſaw, being about fortie in number, though halfe afrayd all of them to ſet vpon that ſillie one, yet loath to leaue their fellowes ruine vnreuenged, they begin altogether to aſſault him, who with the weight of his weapon delt ſuch right downe blowes amongſt them, as whoſoeuer it lighted on it quite killed, or at the leaſt lamed them. Long continued their combat, for that they ſuſtained the foile, and therefore were loath for their credits to leaue the field: yet at ỹ length being almoſt halfe of them ſpoyled, or quite ſpilled, the reſt diſpayring to runne away, leaſt he ſhould ouertake

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their flight, in all humilitie suddenly throwes downe themselues at his feete, intreating fauour for their rash offence, and that their fellowes death might satisfie his desire: on whom his gentle nature could not inflict further furie, but with a good will accepts their homage as they offer their humilitie. And then falling into further conference, begins discourse vnto him what they were, and to what ende they were come thither, whom he handles with all humilitie, laying open vnto them his owne estate, his manner of life in those peopleles places, and what euer had happened vnto him since his first remembrance, carrying them home to his Caue, and there letting them see the manner of his life, where they found sorrowfully sitting these two sad sisters, whose fore ill spent lines had brought vpon them this losse, to whom he also begins to relate the strange manner of their arriual. At last, after they had walked with him round about the borders of his bounds, they begin to dissuade him from that beastly place of abode to goe abroad into the world, and there learne to liue like a man, shewing what daunger was in the one, and what delight in the other, perswading him that by ỹ meanes time would try the trueth of this his tedious search, in bewraying the meanes by which he was brought thither. Vnto whom a great while he would giue no eare, because it should seeme that contented estate wherein he then stode so fitted his humour, as that he little regarded all the gay stories they could tell him of glorie or dignity, wealth, or whatsoeuer good thing this world doth giue. Yet at the last with their incessant perswasions, he determined a while to goe trie the trueth of their storie: but with this promise, that as they profered honestly to vse himselfe, so should they also kindly comfort those two distressed women, that had vnhappily straied from their homes, and rely them only vpon

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his relieſe. Which they with many proteſtations ſolemnely promiſed to doe. And ſo in the end taking away with him thoſe two, by whoſe meanes he was made the ſubiect of that miſchãce, departed altogether from that place, and iourned towards their homes againe. In which way nothing was done, ſaue that they ſtill were telling one to another the ſtorie of their forepaſt liues: and with that tattle beguiling the time, till they came to the place where was their abode, and there preſenting to their Captaine their pray, they begin to relate what happened them in their iourney. Thus with many ſalutations was he intertained, and often imployed in their affayres, wherein he ſo proſperouſly procéeded, as that he was not onely beloued of all the companie, but déerely eſtéemed of their chief Captaine, and ſo ſtill imployed abroad. In the meane time were the poore Quéenes, whom fortune had thus baned to and fro, buſied at home: for by this time were theſe Outlawes waxen exceéding rich, and their Captaine intirely affecting Liuia his wife, daughter to one of theſe vnknowne Quéenes, had carefully prouided her of the curiouſeſt conceits that all that countrie did affoord: where, for that theſe two women that had ſometimes béen Princes ouer many people, could well skill of that kind of pãpering pride which women are wonted to vſe, grew in ſuch great requeſt with their Ladie, that aboue all her attendants they eſpecially were honoured. Here hence grew they again into a new mutinie which of them ſhould beſt deſerue to bee deſired, one priuilie ſeeking to ſpoile what another had curiouſly conceited, the other practizing means to hinder her ſiſters worke, that it might proue of little worth. Long in this ſort gan they diſagrée, till at laſt with their enuious emulation they ſtirred vp all the aſſemblie to ſuch ſtrife, as had not the care of the charie Captaine in time reformed,

ned, it had brought selfe-working harme vpon their owne heads. Such was the grounded malice of these two cruell creatures, as that though feare in extremitie made them agrée as friends, yet in the least shew of péeping prosperitie they begin again the fierce assaults of deadly foes. Who for the better agréement of their whole house, they were glad to separate in twaine, to sée if that bred friendship being asunder, that brought out nothing but hatred betwixt them whilest they were together.

How both the Kings brought their borrowed armies both together into the countrie, and how the citizens levied armes against them, and what was the end of that warre.

CHAP. 8.

IN the meane time whilest these things had thus happened, the two disseuered Kings (of whō before wee tolde you) had brought in both their seuerall supplies of men and munition for the conquering of their lost kingdomes, and pitching their tents vpon the territories of that carefull kingdome, begins with intermissiue messages to sommon the inhabitants, to render ouer againe that rule which so long they had retained. Where in the Senat house at one time méetes both these messengers, craning the kingdome for their seuerall masters: yet till that time those cursed Kings had not heard what was become one of another. To whom

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the Senatours wisely with curteous countenances gaue this answer: That for so much as they were there met to challenge the kingdome seuerally to themselues which should bee ioyntly inioyed of them both, pleased but their Lordships to giue them leisure for these fewe dayes to consider of this case, and then they would answere them both to their owne contents. With which answere the messengers departed back againe to their seuerall masters. After whose absence, these carefull pillers of that crasse Common-wealth, begins to consider with themselues what were best to doe in these daungerous dayes. At length they thought good themselues, that to auoyde the inconueniences which was likely to light vpon them by this purpose, it were best for them, as they did at the first, to gather forces together: for by other meanes they would not bee appeased, and by that deuise assay to driue them backe againe. Which the better to effect (for that countrie was scarse able of it selfe to affoord sufficient force for that fight) they presently dispatch assurance of pardon, and promise of rich reward and great dignities to the Captaines of all those Outlawes, that were incamped in seuerall places of that countrie, if but by such a day they would bring in their seuerall powers, to the ende they might augment their armie against these home-borne enemies. Which proclamations was so effectually performed, as that within a short time there were gathered together an infinit number of such people as liued in the mountains, and other remote places of that countrie, vpon the spoyle of other people: amongst whom was the band of Outlawes, wherein Adrianus was intertained: who being gathered altogether, began to addresse themselues to the seuerall functions in furnishing themselues to the field. In the meane time came the day wherin they were to giue answer to their

seuerall demaunds. At what time comes back both the Harolds to knowe their determinations. To whom the Senatours foreappoynted for that purpose, begins thus mildly to resolue them in their requests. Since (quoth he) the state of these times wherein wee now line, requireth such suretie of safegard, as may withstand the enuious force of any froward fortune, wée to preuent the purpose your ill meaning masters intende, which is no lesse then the ruine and decay of our whole Common-wealth; as strongly as wee may haue here furnished our selues with such forces, as this time and place could affoord. But for that once (which we must euer confesse) they were our happie Kings, though now they be vnhappie people, and that of right to them doth belong this gouernment that wee now guide, if they setting aside all sinister hate, will come and friendly againe repossesse this Crowne and kingdome, and with mutuall loue striue to maintaine that, which with their enuious emulation they now massacre and maime, then on our shoulders will we beare their burthens, and with according strength helpe them to stay this tottering state, which their déedes haue almost brought to decay: but if incensed with the fire of furious flaming enuie, they wil not worke their thoughts conformable to this thing, but with fire and sworde will néedes lay waste this sometimes worthie Common-wealth, then will wee oppose our selues against their threats, and seeke such a mends for this mischiefe, as shall with iust iudgement pull downe their puffed vp plumes, and turne them out againe into the wide world to become a worser skorne of mischance. With this answere the messengers departing: and hauing tolde at home their seuerall tales, it so displeased the Princes, that presently without further delay they would the next morning furiously with both their forces set vpon

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the gouernours of their countrie, and when they had conquered them, then betake themselues to strive whether should bee sole conqueror. Word whereof being speedily brought to the Senatours, they against ỹ next morning gins prepare all their power, and pitching their battell vpon the bosome of a broad plaine that lay betwirt the enemies leaguers, made offer to fight with them both at once. Which when the enemies saw, they as readie to take the occasion as the other to offer, gins furiously to set vpon them, where ioyning streight at handie stroakes, there followed a long and furious fight, the victorie to neither part declining, till at last Adrianus that then had the charge of a Cornet of horse, breaking into the bowels of the enemies battels, wrought such wonderfull atchiuements, as made him iustly accounted for the best approued souldier that that countrie did euer containe, with whose worth the foes were so discõfited, that on a sudden affrighted they betooke themselues to flight, whom he eagerly following ouertooke the two Kings, that by chance had met in the battel, eagerly occupying their feete to escape ỹ scourge of their enemies hands, whom hee surprising brought backe againe to their homes, and presented them to the Senate as the first fruites of his fortune. Where by this time were gathered together the most of those gouernours, to gratulate their forward friends that were returned safe from the fight, who wondering at his worth, could not sufficiently commend his courage: but consulting now with themselues what were best to be done in this dangerous busines.

How after that these two Kings were ouercome, *Adrianus* was chosen king of that countrie, and how he came to know his father and mother, by which the former falshood was descried.

CHAP. 9.

T last they thought it best, that since these two balefull brethrē did euen in their captiuitie still deny to take vpō them the mutuall gouernment of that kingdome, intended for their after quiet to chuse some one of those worthies ẏ had there wrought their releale. And for that they would not incurre the displeasure of any of those coequall Captaines, that had so brauely demeaned themselues, a motion was made amongst them, that for so much as there was no lineall succession left for the inheritance of their kingdome, they then had thus determined to cast lots amongst them all so to chuse their King: which fell vpon Adrianus, of whom they were as glad as his owne hap was good, who with euery seuerall ceremonie belonging to the coronation of such a King established in that countrie, hee first recals from their banishment all those Outlawes by whom he was brought thither, and preferring of his friend and sometimes his Captaine, to a place of great authoritie in his kingdome, taught him to imploy his wit in the building of that Common-wealth vp againe, the which afore he laboured to pull downe. This Captaine we tolde you

before

before had by Liuia his wife a fayre daughter named Laryna, to whom Adrianus in the time of his abode in her fathers house had oftentimes made loue, and shée with like fauour requited him, who but for the sudden sound of these new wrought warres, had by the consent of their parents before inioyed the pleasure they both so instantly desired, who then comming to the Court with her mother, the two captiue Quéenes, and the rest of their retinue, was presently by the consent of the Senate, who desired nothing more then some issuing heires that might successiuely follow in the possession of this kingdome, coupled in marriage with this new King. After which ioyfull day, the King and the Quéene, with the rest of the Nobles gathered together, cals in those captiue brethren to know the cause whence grew their discord, and the two women to inquire of them what had béen the manner of their former liues. Where when they were all met, the old Quéenes séeing their husbands there fast in fetters, touched with a remorce of conscience, fals downe before them, and there confessed the whole course of their liues, and the murthering of their children. By the circumstances of whose tale and the time thereof, these two lost children there found out their seuerall parents: and so faults on both sides forgiuen, and iniuries on enery part made euen, they spent the rest of their dayes in solemne contrition for their former faults.

FINIS.